

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (original): In a method of compiling satellite imagery and generating a map therefrom, an improvement comprising:
- watermarking image data acquired by a satellite;
  - storing the watermarked image data in a database;
  - generating a map from the database; and
  - watermarking the map.
2. (currently amended): In a method of generating a digital map from a database containing data from a plurality of aerial sources, an improvement comprising generating a digital map; and then watermarking the map.
3. (previously presented): The method of claim 2 in which the watermarking encodes, or points to, information that is also conveyed with said map in the form of header data.
4. (original): The method of claim 2 in which the watermark permits later identification of the data sources used in generating the map.
5. (original): The method of claim 2 in which the watermark comprises, or serves as a link to, an image identifier.

6. (original): The method of claim 2 in which the watermark comprises, or links to, data identifying at least one of the following: component maps used in forming said digital map, the date of digital map creation, an identifier corresponding to a person who created the digital map, an identifier corresponding to a person to whom the digital map was provided.

7. (currently amended): The method of claim 2 in which the watermark is designed to evidence processing ~~be lost, or degrade predictably~~, when the map is processed in a particular manner.

8. (previously presented): A composite map formed from plural sets of component map data, characterized in that said plural sets of component map data each are encoded with a different watermark, each of said different watermarks encoding, or linking to, meta data associated with its respective component map data.

9. (new): A method of steganographically embedding auxiliary data in imagery comprising:

receiving imagery including a first geolocation estimate steganographically embedded therein, wherein the first geolocation estimate corresponds to at least one area depicted in the imagery;

determining a second geolocation estimate, the second geolocation estimate comprising a more precise geolocation estimate, relative to the first geolocation estimate, for the at least one area depicted in the imagery; and

steganographically embedding the second geolocation estimate in the imagery.

10. (new): The method of claim 9, wherein the second geolocation estimate overwrites the first geolocation estimate.

11. (new): The method of claim 9, where the second geolocation estimate overlays the first geolocation estimate.

12. (new): A method of managing imagery, the imagery passing through at least a first system and being received at a second system, said method comprising:

receiving the imagery at the second system, the imagery comprising a first digital watermark embedded therein, wherein the first digital watermark was embedded in the imagery by the first system, and wherein the first digital watermark comprises geolocation data associated with at least a first area depicted in the imagery; and

while at the second system, embedding a second digital watermark in the imagery, the second digital watermark identifying at least one of the second system and information associated with a geo-location of at least the first area depicted in the imagery.

13. (new): The method of claim 12, wherein the first system comprises an aerial capture platform and the second system comprises a ground station.

14. (new): The method of claim 12, wherein the first system comprises a ground station that receives the imagery from an aerial platform.

15. (new): The method of claim 12, wherein the first system comprises an geo-  
location determining system.